

**AMENDMENTS**

**In the Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for setting up a connection for a communication network having a multiplicity of network nodes networked via links, comprising:

determining routes to destination network nodes of connection destinations for the network nodes;

allocating, in the network nodes, an allocation rule ~~by means of the routes determined based on the determined routes, by means of which~~ wherein, based on the allocation rule, a forwarding information item is allocated to a link leading to the destination network node and to a new forwarding information item for each destination network node; and

transmitting a setup message from an originating network node to one of the destination network nodes ~~for preparing to prepare~~ a subsequent transmission of data, such that a forwarding information item included in the setup message is to be read out, and

using the allocation rule, forwarding the setup message ~~is forwarded~~ via a link allocated to ~~this the~~ forwarding information item in ~~this the~~ network node, after replacement of ~~this the~~ forwarding information item in the setup message by the new forwarding information item allocated to the former forwarding information item.

2. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein before the setup message is transmitted, the allocation rule ~~by means of which a forwarding information item is allocated to a link leading in the direction of the respective destination network node for each destination network node~~ is setup in the network nodes.

3. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein, in a network node receiving a setup message the forwarding information item included in the setup message is

replaced by a new forwarding information item allocated to the forwarding information item in the network node, by means of which new information item the setup message is then forwarded.

4. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein, in one of the network nodes the new forwarding information item allocated to a forwarding information item is determined by access to a translation table in which a new forwarding information item is included for each permissible forwarding information item.

5. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein during the access to the translation table, the permissible forwarding information item is used as a table index.

6. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein, in one of the network nodes, one of a number of translation tables set up in the network node is selected depending on a connection parameter included in the setup message, and a new forwarding information item is determined ~~by means of~~ in reference to the selected translation table.

7. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein in each case the new forwarding information item allocated to a forwarding information item in one of the network nodes is allocated, in the network node connected via the link also allocated and leading in the direction of the respective destination node, as forwarding information to a link leading in the direction of the same destination network node.

8. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the allocation rule is determined and set up in each network node based on information on the structure of the communication network.

9. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein in one of the network nodes, a link allocated to a forwarding information item is determined by access to a link table in which an information item identifying an associated link is included for each permissible forwarding information item.

10. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein during the access to the link table, the permissible route-specific forwarding information item is used as a table index.

11. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein in one of the network nodes, one of a number of link tables set up in this network node is selected based on a connection parameter included in the setup message, and an associated link is determined by means of the selected translation table.

12. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the connection setup takes place in an ATM network.

13. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein a single ATM cell is transmitted as a setup message.

14. (Currently Amended) A system for setting up a connection for a communication network having a multiplicity of network nodes networked via links, comprising:  
routes leading to destination network nodes for the network nodes;  
an allocation rule, in the network nodes, ~~by means of~~ based on the routes determined, ~~by means of which~~ wherein, based on the allocation rule, a forwarding information item is allocated to

a link to the destination network node and to a new forwarding information item for each destination network node; and

a setup message transmitted from an originating network node to the destination network nodes ~~for preparing to prepare~~ a subsequent transmission of data, such that in a network node receiving the setup message,

a forwarding information item included in the setup message is read out, and

using the allocation rule, the setup message is forwarded via a link allocated to this forwarding information item in this network node, after replacement of this forwarding information item by the new forwarding information item allocated to the former forwarding information item.